

**REMARKS**

This Amendment and Request for Reconsideration is submitted in response to an outstanding Office Action dated March 3, 2005. The shortened statutory period for response is set to expire on June 3, 2005. Therefore a petition for an extension of time and the associated fee are not believed due.

**I. Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-16, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 31, and 33-40 have been allowed.

Please cancel without prejudice claims 17, 20, 23, 26, 29, and 32 as indicated above.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's citation of statutory authority as a basis for claim rejections.

**II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101**

The Examiner has finally rejected claims 17, 20, 23, 26, 29, and 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants have responded to the examiner's rejection by requesting cancellation without prejudice of claims 17, 20, 23, 26, 29, and 32. Applicants maintain the arguments stated in the March 15, 2004 response in regard to the patentability of claims 17, 20, 23, 26, 29, and 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

**III. Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicants acknowledge that the Examiner has allowed claims 1-16, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 31, and 33-40.

**IV. Request for Reconsideration**

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims of this application are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, allowance is requested. If a conference would assist in placing this application in better condition for allowance, the undersigned would appreciate a telephone call

at the number indicated.

Respectfully submitted,  
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